

Message Text

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65

ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /027 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PRCM:JAUBERT:GEC

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R 222016Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, BDIS, US, CH, TW

SUBJECT: AMERICAN EXPRESS AND ITS TWO-CHINA PROBLEM

1. AMEXCO REPRESENTATIVES BLISS AND FREEMAN CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HUMMEL SEPTEMBER 17 TO INFORM DEPARTMENT OF PRC SEVERANCE OF RELATIONS WITH AMEXCO INCLUDING TRAVELLERS CHECK CASHING. LATTER IS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO AMEXCO SINCE IT DEROGATES FROM UNIVERSALITY OF CHECKS, WHICH PRC HAD PREVIOUSLY CASHED, AND PRC WILL APPARENTLY HONOR TRAVELLERS CHECKS FROM ANY BANK WITH EXCEPTION OF AMEXCO (AND PERHAPS FNCB).

2. AMEXCO ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ITS PREDICAMENT WAS SELF-CONSTRUCTED AND WAS MAKING CALL PRIMARILY TO ADVISE DEPARTMENT. HOWEVER, COMPANY IS APPARENTLY CONSIDERING APPLICABILITY OF ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION -- ONE VERSION OF WHICH HAS NOW PASSED CONGRESS AS PART OF THE TAX BILL.

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INFORMAL DEPARTMENT OPINION IS THAT PRC ACTIVITIES VIS-A-

VIS TAIWAN WOULD NOT FALL UNDER THE AMENDED TAX BILL'S
PURVIEW AND AMEXCO WAS SO ADVISED.

3. WILL POUCH MEMCON. HABIB

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
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